

84 *Stormy Passage*

"Then will you watch your men?" The lieutenant flushed, thanked me, and at once took steps to break contacts between his soldiers and the crowd.

After midnight a train arrived with the investigating attorney and half a dozen other officials. The attorney wanted to question Eugene first, but I pointed out that Eugene was in no condition to stand questioning, and he agreed to examine us simultaneously. He began by saying sternly, "Listen! Do you hear?" The mob was roaring behind the broken windows. After a long pause he continued, "Unless you tell me the whole truth, I shall not be able to take you away from here."

We testified that we had attended the convention of school-teachers in Chorino and had spoken to peasants in Chorino and another village, and to peasants and workers at the glass factory. As to the content of our speeches, we suggested he question the people who had heard us. The attorney then asked whether we had set fire to churches in the district. I replied by asking how many churches had burned down in the neighborhood in the past forty-eight hours. He agreed that he had no official reports of any.

After other formalities, the attorney announced that all seven of us were under arrest and ordered the lieutenant to deliver us to the state prison in Novgorod.

A train arrived. The lieutenant ordered the soldiers to form two lines on the platform, from the door of the waiting room to the nearest car, but the muzhiks broke through the lines. Then the officer took his whole company to the platform and opened a wide passage from the station to the train. Soldiers who were not protecting the passage linked arms in a ring around us. In this way they got us through the mob to the train. Six soldiers under the command of a sergeant boarded the train, while the young officer remained at the station with most of his company.

The train began to move. The distance between us and the station was increasing rapidly. I fell asleep.

IN NOVGOROD PRISON

The jail in Novgorod was a large three-story building surrounded by a high brick wall with wooden turrets. A matron took the girls to the women's ward; Zaloga and Alexander were assigned to the pre-trial detention quarters; Eugene, Thomas, and I were taken to the prison hospital, where we received adequate medical care and were treated with all possible consideration. Thomas and I were